

THE INVENTION CLAIMED IS:

1. A dust-clearing band saw blade, comprising:
a flexible, longitudinal-extending body having a blade thickness with a blank side and a cutting side;
a plurality of spaced teeth having cutting edges formed on the cutting side of said body;
a blade valley defined between adjacent teeth; and
a cut out positioned in front of the cutting edge of each tooth, said cut out extending through said blade thickness and below said blade valley.
2. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cut out is U-shaped and positioned directly in front of each tooth.
3. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cutting edges extend parallel to each other.
4. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 2, wherein a side wall of each cut out is formed by the adjacent tooth's cutting edge.
5. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 4, wherein said side wall is an extension of said cutting edge below said blade valley.

6. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein each respective tooth defines a ski-jump shaped profile and each cutting edge defines a tooth rake angle ranging from 0 to 15 degrees.

7. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein an axis bisection of each cut out forms an angle ranging from 0 to 15 degrees with respect to vertical.

8. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cut out has a depth no more than one-half the height of its adjacent tooth.

9. The band saw blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cut out has a depth corresponding to said blade thickness.

10. A dust-clearing band saw blade comprising:
a flexible, longitudinal-extending body having a blade thickness with a blank side and a cutting side;
a plurality of spaced teeth having cutting edges formed on the cutting side of said body;
a blade valley defined between adjacent teeth; and
a cut out having a side wall positioned in front of the cutting edge of each tooth, said cut out extending through said blade thickness, wherein said side wall is an extension of said cutting edge below said blade valley.

11. A method for clearing sawdust from a band saw blade when the band saw blade is cutting a workpiece, said band saw blade comprising a plurality of spaced teeth

having cutting edges, a blade valley defined between adjacent teeth, and a cut out positioned directly in front of the cutting edge of each tooth, said cut out extending through said blade thickness and below said blade valley, the method comprising:

- a. cutting a workpiece by moving the teeth of the saw blade across the surface of the workpiece;
- b. forming a kerf in the workpiece;
- c. directing sawdust formed inside the kerf from the cutting edge of each tooth directly into the adjacent cut out;
- d. carrying sawdust inside the cut outs from the kerf to a location removed from the workpiece; and
- e. removing sawdust from the cut outs.